

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE****RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER**

DEC 23 2003

December 18, 2003

**OFFICIAL**

**Re:   Invention:**                   **Process to Fracture Connecting  
Rods and the Like with Resonance-Fatigue**

**Application No.:**               **10/643,910**

**Filed on:**                   **August 20, 2003, which is pending claims the  
benefit of 09/599,409**

**Country:**                   **United States**

**Inventor:**                   **Guirgis, Sameh**

The Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks  
WASHINGTON, D.C.  
U.S.A. 20231

Dear Sirs:

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Applicant respectfully requests prosecution of the non allowed claims which have been amended without adding any new subject matter as follows:

**CLAIMS**

1. A process for the fracture separation, into a first portion and a second portion of a part having a bore therethrough along a predetermined fracture plane that extends through said bore, the process comprising: clamping said first portion, selectively, so as to substantially fix the first portion; applying a harmonic force to said second portion at a selected frequency so as to achieve a resonance condition in said part during said process and to thereby create fatigue cracks; and propagating said fatigue cracks through said part until said first portion and said second portion are separated from each other.